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The following is the history of the Wells family in America. Albert Ballou, Pub. in 1870, and other sources, mainly X records furnished by Miss Caroline C. Wells of Haverhill, N.H., by the descendants of Abby Hill, and Fred H. Benson of Haverhill, Mass.

The Wells family in America should be recognized for the early history. In all the name, coats of arms, different early marriages, and other things of interest, for the early generations were full of such men of considerable note.

Government officials, even here, and men of high positions. The family is traced back before the year 1630. In his book Mr. Wells gives the authority for much that he gives and such General.

### Genealogy

Wells - Sellow - Adams - Pratt and Balch

-----  
Arranged for the descendants of

Russell and Patience Sophronia(Adams)Wells

by

Fred H. Benson  
110 Beard Place  
Syracuse N.Y.  
1924







The following is from the History of the Welles Family in America by Albert Welles, pub. in 1876, and other sources, mainly by records compiled by Miss Caroline C. Wells of Naples N.Y. by Mrs E.N. Warner of Rocky Hill Conn. and Fred H. Benson of Syracuse N.Y.

The Welles Family in America should be consulted for the early history, origin of the name, Coats of Armour, different early spellings, and other things of interest, for the early generations were many of them men of considerable note,

Government officials, Crusaders, and men of high positions.

The family is traced back before the year 1000. In his book Mr Welles cites the authority for much that he gives and such General history occupies 96 pages of his book.

He then gives the names of nine of the name of Welles who came to America, landing in New England, and where each finally settled.

Chief among these was Governor Thomas Welles of Connecticut, who was born at Rothwell, Northamptonshire Eng. in 1598 died Jan 14. 1660. He married Elizabeth Hunt in Eng. about 1618. She died at Hartford or Wethersfield Conn. about 1640 and he married second Elizabeth Foote, widow of Nathaniel Foote and daughter of John Deming. There were no children by the second wife who died at Wethersfield July 23. 1683. He came to Boston in 1636 and removed to Hartford Conn. In 1637 he was chosen one of the magistrates of the Colony, and is said to have held this office all the rest of his life. He was elected Treasurer of the Colony in 1639, Secretary of State in 1643, one of the Commissioners to represent Connecticut in the Confederation of New England Colonies in 1649. In 1654 the Governor of Conn. died, the Deputy Gov. was absent in Eng. and Thomas Welles was made acting Governor till the election in 1655 when he was elected Governor. The law of the Colony allowed a Governor to serve but one term in succession, he was elected Deputy Gov. in 1656. In 1658 elected Governor again, and in 1659 Deputy Gov. and died Jan 14. 1660 while in office. He was fourth Governor of the Colony, many of the early laws were framed by him. There is a tradition that he came to America as the Secretary of Lord Say-and-Sale, but in "The Governors of Connecticut" by F.M. Calvin in 1895 he says this has been quite thoroughly disproven in the light of more recent investigation, and all statements of this sort concerning his early career in America are purely conjectural. This author thinks he came to America with the Rev Thomas Hooker's party.







The will of Gov. Thomas Welles was dated Nov 7. 1658 and is given in full in the "History of the Welles Family" at page 103. His second wife was about 48 at death and her will, which was dated Aug 1683, is also given at page 105. She had children by her first marriage. His children were

### Children

- 1 Ann <sup>2</sup> b. about 1618, married Thomas Thompson
- 2 John <sup>2</sup> b. about 1621, m. Elizabeth Bourne Curtis
- 3 Robert <sup>2</sup> b. About 1624 died before 1652
- 4 Thomas <sup>2</sup> b. about 1627, d. 1668 aged about 41, m. Hannah

widow of John Pantry and daughter of Richard

Tuttle of Boston

- 5 Samuel <sup>2</sup> b. about 1630, d. July 15. 1675, m. Elizabeth

Hollieter, 2nd Hannah Lamborton, dau. of George

- 6 Sarah <sup>2</sup> b. about 1632

- 7 Mary <sup>2</sup> b. about 1634

- 8 Joseph <sup>2</sup> b. 1637 at Hartford Conn.

---

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy under President

Lincoln was a descendant of Samuel <sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> John Welles, son of Gov. Thomas Welles, born in England

about 1621, m. Elizabeth Curtis of Stratford Conn. in 1647

He was a Representative in 1656/7 and was elected magistrate in May 1658 and Judge of Probate at Stratford Oct 1658.

He d. 1659 aged 38. He m. 2nd John Wilcoxson in 1663.

Children







- 1 John <sup>3</sup> b. 1646 died 1714
- 2 Thomas <sup>3</sup> b. 1651
- 3 Robert <sup>3</sup> b. 1651, twin to Thomas d. 1714 married
- 4 Temperance <sup>3</sup> Elizabeth Goodrich June 9. 1675 b. 1651
- 5 Samuel <sup>3</sup> b. 1656 died 1729
- 6 Sarah <sup>3</sup> b. Sept 25. 1659
- 7 Mary <sup>3</sup> b. Aug 23. 1661

-----

<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup> /  
 Captain Robert Welles (John, Gov Thomas) born in Stratford Conn. in 1651 died June 22. 1711 in Wethersfield where they had lived. He married Elizabeth Goodrich, daughter of Ensign and Sarah (Herrin) Goodrich of Wethersfield, June 9. 1675. She died Feb 17. 1687 aged about 40. He married second ----- who died in 1740. He has a flat stone tablet in the Wethersfield Cemetery

#### Children

- 1 Thomas <sup>4</sup> b. May 1676
- 2 John <sup>4</sup> b. June 1678
- 3 Joseph <sup>4</sup> b. Sept 1680 died 1744
- 4 Prudence <sup>4</sup> b. 1682
- 5 Robert <sup>4</sup> b. 1684
- 6 Gideon <sup>4</sup> b. 1686 died 1740 He was called Captain







<sup>4</sup> Joseph Welles (Capt Robert, John, Gov Thomas) born at Wethersfield Conn. Sept 1686, died there in 1744, married Hannah Robbins daughter of Capt Joshua Robbins who was the son of John Robbins, gent. She b. ----- died ----- They lived at Wethersfield Conn.

## Children

- <sup>5-</sup>  
1 Joseph b. Apr 11. 1729 died Apr 15. 1780  
<sup>5-</sup>  
2 Joshua b. Sept 1726

<sup>5-</sup> Joseph Welles (Joseph, Capt Robert, John, Gov Thomas) born April 11. 1729 died April 15. 1788, married Mary Robbins March 1748. She b. 1721 died Nov 8. 1777. They lived at Wethersfield Conn.

## Children

- <sup>6</sup>  
1 Joseph b. Apr 14. 1746 died 1801, m. Jerusha Hurlburt  
<sup>6</sup>  
2 Sarah b. Sept 13. 1747 d. 1805 m. Solomon Walcott  
<sup>6</sup>  
3 Seth b. Aug 13. 1749 d Apr 23. 1828, m. Judith Robbins married second Lydia Benton  
<sup>6</sup>  
4 Elijah b. March 12. 1751 d. Dec 23. 1796, m. Sarah F. Balch  
<sup>6</sup>  
5 Samuel b. Dec 10. 1753, d. Feb 12. 1816, m. Annar Griswold  
<sup>6</sup>  
6 Mary b. 1756 died Oct 6. 1828, married Elisha Walcott  
<sup>6</sup>  
7 Elisha b. March 12. 1753 died May 16. 1843 at Holland Patent N.Y. married Lois Welles  
<sup>6</sup>  
I Christopher b. March 11. 1760 died at Holland Patent N.Y.

married Sarah Griswold, daughter of Solomon

<sup>7</sup>  
One of their sons was Justus Wells, b. Dec 10. 1804 died at Fayetteville N.Y. May 4. 1872







<sup>6</sup> Elijah Welles (<sup>5</sup> Joseph, <sup>4</sup> Joseph, <sup>3</sup> Capt Robert, <sup>2</sup> John, <sup>1</sup> Thomas)

Born at Wethersfield Conn. Jan 10.1751 died Dec 23.1796.

He married Sarah Belden Balch (see the Balch Genealogy by G.B.Balch) She b. Apr 1.1751 d. March 4.1823, daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah (Belden) Balch. They lived at Wethersfield. He was a soldier in the Revolution in the Company of Capt Hezekiah Welles, Col Erastus Walcott's Reg't. and in the fall of 1776 took part in the battles at New York as Washington retreated across New Jersey

#### Children

- <sup>7</sup> 1 Sarah b. Aug 2.1773 d. Mar 11.1833 m. Russell House
- <sup>7</sup> 2 Elijah b. Feb 27.1773, d. Sept 18.1833 in Pompey N.Y.

m. Lucy Sellev daughter of John and Sarah

she b. July 14.1775 d. Nov 3.1857 in Pompey

- <sup>7</sup> 3 Polly Mary b. Apr 25.1777 d. Aug 23.1854 m. Wm Adams
- <sup>7</sup> 4 Patty b. Jan 26.1778 d. Nov 18.1855 m. Roger Warner
- <sup>7</sup> 5 Esther b. July 24.1781 m. John Griswold
- <sup>7</sup> 6 Hannah b. Oct 5.1783 d. Oct 23.1857 m. John Griswold

His first wife was her sister Esther

- <sup>7</sup> 7 George b. Aug 26.1785 d. May 21.1861 m. Prudence

Dwelling of East Hartford Conn.

- <sup>7</sup> 8 Henry b. May 13.1789 d. Jan 13.1856 married

Ruth Wright of Wethersfield Conn.







<sup>7</sup> Elijah Wells (<sup>6</sup> Elijah, <sup>5</sup> Joseph, <sup>4</sup> Joseph, <sup>3</sup> Capt Robert, <sup>2</sup> John, <sup>1</sup> Thomas)

Born Feb 27. 1775 at Wethersfield, died Sept 18. 1830, married

Lucy Sellow, daughter of John and Sarah (Smith) Sellow of East-

bury Conn. Jan 18. 1800. She b. July 14. 1775 d. Nov 9. 1837

Their farm was a short distance north of Pompey Hill, where

they are buried. They came to Pompey about 1800. He seems

to have spelled his name Wells, but was the first in his

line to use that spelling, all before him spelling it Welles

### Children

<sup>8</sup> 1 Asa Hamilton b. Oct 22. 1800, d. Sept 9. 1882. He married

Sept 6. 1824 Roxana Merley. She died Dec 27. 1827

1827. He m. second Harriet Benton Jan 3. 1830

in Connecticut

<sup>8</sup> 2 John Sellow b. May 30. 1803 d. May 22. 1854, married Oct 6

1828 Mary Hinsdell, in Pompey

<sup>8</sup> 3 Russell b. Apr 30. 1805, d. Jan 2. 1886 at Manlius Village

married Patience Sophronia Adams Oct 28. 1826.

She b. July 15. 1808 d. Nov 12. 1883

<sup>8</sup> 4 Elijah b. Feb 12. 1800 d. May 13. 1856 at Naples N.Y.

married Caroline Chesbro Dec 17. 1846

<sup>8</sup> 5 George b. Jan 22. 1813 d. Oct 16. 1890, married

Sarah A. Woodford of Pompey

<sup>8</sup> 6 Lucy b. Oct 20. 1815 died Feb 6. 1816

<sup>8</sup> 7 Sarah b. Sept 25. 1817 d. Feb 28. 1842 unmarried







8 7 6 5 4  
 Asa Hamilton Wells (Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Captain  
 3 2 1  
 Robert, John, Gov Thomas) born Oct 22. 1800 d. Sept 9. 1882  
 Morley  
 at Manlius Village. He m. Roxana Morse, daughter of Gideon  
 in Pompey Sept 8. 1824. She d. Dec 27. 1827. He m. second in  
 Castonbury Conn. Jan 3. 1830 Harriet Benton, daughter of  
 Samuel Benton. She b. Feb 15. 1810 d. Dec 1837. He was a  
 farmer in Pompey till 1875. His name Asa was that of his  
 mother's brother, and Hamilton from his great grand mother  
 Hannah Hamilton Sellew

Children

9  
 1 Roxana M. b. Aug 6. 1825 d. Feb 14. 1901 m. Charles P.

Durham Dec 18. 1848. He b. July 28. 1826 died

Sept 12. 1855. Two daughters Lucilla, Harriet

9  
 2 George Edward b. Nov 16. 1830 in Castonbury Conn, died

July 26. 1836 at Manlius Village, married

Nancy M. Woodward. She born Aug 24. 1836.

Two sons, Henry and Edward

9  
 3 Mary Jane b. Apr 5. 1835 in Pompey, d. July 16. 1882

9  
 4 Ellen Irene b. May 31. 1840, m. Samuel Jerome Sept 22

1863. He died April 22. 1886. They were

prominent farmers living in the southern

part of Pompey, not far from the Village

of Fabius Wm L. Feb 23. 1922





8                      7                      6                      5                      4  
 John Sollow Wells (Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Captain  
 3                      2                      1  
 Robert, John, Gov Thomas) born in Pomfret May 30. 1803 died  
 May 22. 1854. Married Mary Winsdell Oct 6. 1823. She born  
 June 10. 18                      d, Apr 6. 1853.

## Children

9  
 1 Elijah DeLous b. Jan 10. 1832 d July 18. 1896. He married  
 Eliza W. Macy. She died Oct 1896. They lived  
 at Minneapolis. He was a prominent minister.  
 They had one daughter, Mary Eliza, who married  
 Chas P. Babcock Oct 21. 1886. She d. July 1887  
 leaving an infant son, Samuel Wells Babcock

9  
 2 Harriet Eliza b. Aug 26. 1833 d. Apr 14. 1888 married  
 Jan 5. 1859 Henry Lyman Duguid. He born Dec  
 25. 1832 d. Dec 30. 1883. He was a prominent  
 business man of Syracuse, a member of the  
 Assembly &c Children Mary Evelyn Duguid  
 m. Donald Dey Jan 18. 1894. She b. Jan 8. 1863  
 Harriet Eliza b. Aug 11. 1865 m. Apr 25. 1898  
 George L. Annernan of Chicago  
 Henry Wells Duguid b. Oct 1869 m. Grace  
 Valentine Sept 23. 1896

9  
 3 John Emmet b. Dec 15. 1836 d. Jan 4. 1904 m Sept 15. 1862  
 Matilda P. Dwight. She b. July 8. 1840 died  
 Dec 26. 1905





8                      7                      6                      5                      4                      3  
 Russell Wells (Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Capt Robert,  
 2                      1  
 John, Thomas) b. Apr 30. 1805 in Pompey, d. Jan 2. 1886 at  
 Manlius, n. Oct 23. 1838 Patience Sophronia Adams, daugh-  
 ter of Zophar and Laura (Pratt) Adams (see the Adams records)  
 She b. July 15. 1808 d. Nov 12. 1883. Both buried at Manli-  
 us. They were farmers living in Pompey, near Manlius.

### Children

- 1 Franklin Adams b. Dec 3. 1831 d. Nov 18. 1897  
 married Sarah Alexander
- 2 Henry Addison b. March 1835, d. 1906, m. Susan M. Coarey  
 and Ella Coarey, 3rd Adelia Alexander
- 3 Emma Amelia b. Oct 15. 1840 in Pompey, d. Jan 17. 1921  
 at San Diego Calif. married Col Edward  
 Coburn Coarey March 25. 1864. He born in  
 Hudson, Columbia Co. N.Y. June 11. 1841 died  
 July 26. 1913 at Fargo North Dakota.
- 4 Dr Charles Leonard b. Oct 13. 1842 d. Jan 20. 1898 at  
 Minneapolis Minn. Married Harriet Stillw-  
 ell at Manlius N.Y. Dec 1. 1879
- 5 Lucia Sophronia b. July 20. 1844, d. July 8. 1912 at  
 Rochester N.Y. Married George A. Craley  
 June 8. 1875. He b. ----- d. Mch 29. 1920
- 6 Russell Melville b. ----- died young
- 7 George Platt b. Nov 22. 1843, m. Mary A. Smith Aug 15. 1870  
 She b. Nov 2. 1853, d. Oct 12. 1902. He  
 m. 2nd Nov 18. 1903 Nellie May Relyea  
 Child Gertrude S. born 1878 died 1881
- 8 Fannie F. (Frances Flora) b. Oct 7. 1851 d. Feb 16. 1889  
 m. Fred H. Benson (see the Benson records)
- 9 Laura Adelia b. July 1. 1855 d. Jan 14. 1900 m. Dec 13  
 1871 Samuel P. Hibbard





<sup>8</sup> <sup>7</sup> <sup>6</sup> <sup>5</sup> <sup>4</sup> <sup>3</sup>  
 Elijah Wells (Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Capt Robert,

<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>  
 John, Gov Thomas) born in Pompey Feb 12. 1809, d. May 13. 1886

m. Caroline Chesebro Dec 17. 1846. She b. Aug 28. 1825 died

Apr 18. 1912. He was a merchant at Naples, Ontario Co N.Y.

<sup>9</sup> Children

1 Lucy Sellow b. Oct 12. 1847 d. Aug 12. 1922

<sup>9</sup>  
 2 Elijah b. July 13. 1850 d. Jan 25. 1917, m. Cornelia M.  
 Hamlin May 10. 1873. She b. May 8. 1851  
 There were no children

<sup>9</sup>  
 3 Caroline Chesebro b. Oct 28. 1852 d. July 9. 1924

<sup>9</sup> <sup>23</sup>  
 4 Mary Monier b. Jan 23. 1855 d. March 1915 m. Oct 9. 1889  
 D. Dana Luther. He b. Jan 27. 1857 d. Dec 19. 1923

<sup>9</sup>  
 5 George Howard b. Jan 27. 1857

<sup>8</sup> <sup>7</sup> <sup>6</sup> <sup>5</sup> <sup>4</sup> <sup>3</sup>  
 George Wells (Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Capt Robert,  
<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>  
 John, Gov Thomas) born in Pompey Jan 22. 1813 d. Oct 16. 1890  
 July 4.

m. Sarah A. Woodford June 15. 1864. She b. Jan 22. 1833

d. Nov 17. 1903. They were farmers living at Pompey Hill.

Child

<sup>9</sup>  
 Harriot Eliza L. Dec 14. 1863 married June 15. 1886 Rev Dr

A.J. Abeel. They reside at Syracuse N.Y.

Children

<sup>10</sup>  
 Ethel Wells Abeel b. Oct 1. 1887 m. Leonard Foster

<sup>10</sup>  
 George Albert Abeel b. Jan 15. 1891

<sup>10</sup>  
 Helen Claire Abeel b. Dec 2. 1893 d. Feb 20. 1900





Franklin Adama Welles (Russell, Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Capt Robert, John, Gov Thomas) b. in Pompey N.Y. Dec 3. 1831 d. Nov 18. 1907 at Plainview Minn. Married Dec 23. 1856 Sarah Alexander. She b.

They were farmers at Plainview, Fabasha Co Minn. where he settled at in 1863

## Children

- 1 Lillian Josephine b. May 14. 1857 m. Frank D. Washburn
- 2 Florence Adelaide b. Aug 1. 1861 m. William Foster
- 3 May Agnes died young
- 4 Isabel Wenona b. June 28. 1868 m. William I. Gray Oct 18 1892. They live at Minneapolis Minn.
- 5 Ada Rosamond died young
- 6 Maude Adelia b. Apr 8. 1873

Henry Addison Welles (Russell, Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Capt Robert, John, Gov Thomas) b. March 11. 1835 d. Feb 1896 at Appleton Minn. where he settled at an early day. He m. Susan H. Gearcy, second Ella Conrade, third Adelia Alexander.

## Children

- 1 Lucy Augusta b. Nov 8. 1862 m. Oct 17. 1883 Milton Kingbury 1883
- 2 Hattie Sophronia b. Sept 1. 1867 m. Carl Sallon Aug 18 1883
- 3 Henry Addison b. Apr 22. 1869
- 4 Ralph Conrade b. Apr 1. 1886
- 5 Arba Russell b. March 14. 1893





<sup>8</sup> E. Amelia Wells<sup>8</sup> (Russell, <sup>7</sup> Elijah, <sup>6</sup> Elijah, <sup>5</sup> Joseph, <sup>4</sup> Joseph,

<sup>3</sup> Capt Robert, <sup>2</sup> John, <sup>1</sup> Gov Thomas) b. in Pompey Oct 13. 1840

died at San Diego Calif. Jan 17. 1921, married Col Edward

Coburn Gearey March 25. 1864. He born in Hudson, Columbia Co

N.Y. June 11. 1841, son of Hamilton B. and Harriet E. (Macy)

Gearey. He enlisted in Company E of the 149th New York

Infantry in 1862, wounded at Chancellorville and later pro-

moted to Lieut Col. of another regiment. Was mustered out in

1865 and settled in Wabasha Co. Minn. He was elected to the

State Senate and in 1883 received the appointment as Receiver

of the U.S. land office at Fargo, filling this position for

about eight years. He died at Fargo July 26. 1913

#### Children

<sup>10</sup> 1 Clarence Beard b. Aug 22. 1865 d. Feb 13. 1866

<sup>10</sup> 2 Hamilton Wells b. Feb 6. 1867, married Alice Brown Sept 16

1896. He is now (1921) president of the

Merchants Nat Bank of Fargo N. Dak.

<sup>10</sup> 3 Lucia Amelia b. Dec 12. 18      m. Evan C. Griffeth

<sup>10</sup> 4 Edward Coburn b.      1872 m. Emma Dalrymple. He was in the

N. Dak regiment that went to the Philippines in

1898, returning as Capt of the Fargo Company,

and later had the rank of Brig. Gen. Was in

the A.E.F. in World war with rank of Major.





10

5 Frances Mabel Gearey b. 1874 m. William Heapes, m.

End ----- Divine. She d. at San Diego Calif

in 1920

10

6 John Willard b. May 20. 1880, Married -----

He was a bugler in the N. Dak Regiment and

went to the Philippines with it remaining

about a year. Now lives in California.

Dr Charles Leonard Telles (Russell, Elijah, Elijah, Joseph,  
Joseph, Capt Robert, John, Gov Thomas. b. in Pompey Oct 13. 1842

He was a prominent Physician in Minneapolis Minn. died

Jan 26. 1898. He married Harriet Stilwell in Mendota in

1870

#### Children

10

1 Henry Journey b. Feb 1876. He too is a prominent

Physician in Minneapolis. Married -----

10

2 Marie Stilwell b. Aug 1873. married Jan 15. 1902

Married Robert Laing Collier of Keokuk Ia.

He died and she married second James Mac-

Martin. They live in Minneapolis Minn.





Lucia Sophronia Wells (Russell, Elijah, Elijah, Joseph,  
Joseph, Capt Robert, John, Gov Thomas) b. July 20. 1844 in  
Pompey died July 6. 1912 in Rochester N.Y. married June 8  
1875 to George A. Graley. He died March 30. 1920 at Rochester  
They and their children are buried at Manlius N.Y.

## Children

Arthur Wells Graley b. Oct 29. 1881 in Chicago, d. Apr 28  
1920 in Rochester. Married Bertha DuVal Oct 10  
1904. No children.

Russell Jerome Graley b. July 1883 in Chicago, d. May 1884

George Platt Wells (Russell, Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph,  
Capt Robert, John, Gov Thomas) b. Nov 22. 1848 in Pompey  
He has been a paper manufacturer and lives in Fulton N.Y.  
Married Mary Adeline Smith of Manlius Aug 13. 1870. She b.  
Nov 2. 1853 d. Oct 12. 1902 at Fulton. He m. 2nd Nov 18. 1903  
Nellie May Relyea of Rome N.Y.

## Child

Gertrude Sophronia b. May 22. 1876 at Manlius, d. Jan 26. 1881





Fannie F. Wells (Frances Flora) (Russell, Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Capt Robert, John, Governor Thomas) born Oct 7. 1851

In the town of Pompey, died February 16. 1889 (of pneumonia) in Casselton, Cass Co N. Dak. She is buried at Manlius N.Y.

Married Fred H. Benson at Manlius N.Y. March 16. 1878.

They settled near Casselton Cass Co N. Dak. in 1881

#### Children

Stuart Wells Benson b June 15. 1881, married Vera E. Gray at Boston Mass June 1902. Daughter of Jas Oliver and Eliza Hamilton Grey of Boston. She b Aug 15. 1881

#### Children

Douglas Hamilton b Apr 3. 1904 at Boston Mass

Rosamond Patrick b Dec 9. 1906 at Boston Mass

Roger Sumner b Nov 21. 1908 at Trenton N.J.

Vera Eliza Jr b Aug 31. 1915 " "

Stuart Wells Jr b Apr 30. 1917. " "

Robert Frederick b Sept 12. 1920 at Pittsburgh Pa

George Frederick b Oct 3. 1885 at Casselton N. Dak. Married Ethel M. Hansen at Syracuse N.Y. Dec 26. 1911. She born Oct 23. 1887 at Toledo Ohio

#### Child

George Frederick Benson Jr b Sept 16. 1913 at New York

Laura Adelia Wells (Russell, Elijah, Elijah, Joseph, Joseph, Capt Robert, John, Governor Thomas) born July 1. 1855 in Pompey, d Jan 14. 1900 in Syracuse, m Samuel P. Hibbard Dec 13. 1871. He b Nov 7. 1849

#### Children

Lucius Wells Hibbard b Sept 26. 1872, d Aug 22. 1875

Florence Catherine Hibbard b June 22. 1879. She m Eugene H. Sacket, formerly of Fargo N. Dak. June 1. 1903. He was a soldier in the Spanish American war and went to the Philippines with the N. Dak Regiment and was with the U.S. Shipbuilding Corporation during the world war. He was an Architect, and died in a hospital at Baltimore Md. March 5. 1923

#### Children

Laura Frances Sacket b Apr 23. 1905

Mary Josephine Sacket b March 6. 1906

Russell Hibbard Sacket b Nov 12. 1910





Philip Sellew (or Sellon), the French Huguenot ancestor, was born at Bordeaux, France, in 1688, and came to America soon after marriage to Elizabeth Eorion, probably about 1710 or 1712. He intended to become a clergyman, but took up teaching temporarily, having received a good education, and it is stated on his tombstone at Harwich Mass. that he was a teacher for fifty years, fitting men for business, for college and for navigation. He lived at Martha's Vineyard and Harwich Mass and died May 15, 1773 aged 85.

After the death of his first wife he married 2nd Abigail Martin, and third June 14, 1732 Phoebe Atwood

### Children

- 1 Primus      Sellew b March 28. 1713, m Jane Deveroux
- 2 Philip      "    b Dec 17. 1714, died young
- 3 John        "    b March 31. 1717, d July 2. 1745 at Surinam  
S.A. of yellow fever. Married Hannah  
Hamilton, daughter of Thomas Hamilton.
- 4 Asa         "    b March 14. 1718  
by second wife
- 5 a daughter
- 6 a daughter
- 7 a daughter  
by third wife
- 8 Philip 2nd    "    b Feb 12. 1740
- 9 Elizabeth    "    b July 31. 1741, died Nov 1. 1764
- 10 Catherine    "    b Oct 31. 1743

Of the above, Primus, John and Asa were taught navigation and became Sea Captains





John Sellow, son of Philip and Elizabeth (Berian) Sellow, born probably at Harwich Mass. March 31. 1717. He studied navigation and became a Sea Captain and owned an interest in a small ship that made voyages to Holland and other European ports and to the West Indies. He was taken with yellow fever and died at Surinam S.A. July 2. 1745. He married Hannah Hamilton daughter of Col Thomas Hamilton of Boston Sept 20. 1739. She was born July 18. 1721. After his ship arrived home she was notified of his death, and a time was set for her to meet the other owners on board to settle his affairs. She left the baby, John, on shore with friends, expecting to be gone but a few hours, but a storm came up and they had to put to sea and it was three weeks before they got back to shore. The voyage had been a losing one for him and it is said that all she received from his property was a hoghead of molasses. She later married Capt Samuel Finley and had children by him. They lived at Marlboro Conn, where she died in July 1790. Capt Finley was Capt of a whaling ship and her sons were brought up to the sea, and it is said were once wrecked on the coast of Martha's Vineyard. The Hamiltons were Scotch, her brother, Thomas Hamilton was a Col of Colonial Troops at Boston.

### Children

- 1 Thomas Sellow b Sept 22. 1740, d June 14. 1786 at Scarborough Me in Casco Bay. He was married and lived at Rocky Hill, near Hartford, but had no children. During the Revolution he was in Command of the privateer sloop Lucy, of Conn. Four guns, twenty men. He was named for his grandfather, Thomas Hamilton who willed him his sword.
- 2 Philip Sellow b Aug 1. 1743 at Martha's Vineyard. After his father's death he lived with his grandfather Philip Sellow, who educated him. He learned the shoemaking trade in New York City and followed the business in Gastonbury Conn. He married Elizabeth Smith Apr 2. 1767, daughter of Juduthan and Mary (Kimberly) Smith. They had twelve children
- 3 John Sellow b Aug 14. 1745 in Mass. died Aug 5. 1824, married Sarah Smith Oct 10. 1768 at Gastonbury Conn.





John Sellow, son of John and Hannah (Hamilton) Sellow, born probably on the Island of Martha's Vineyard Mass. Aug 14. 1745, died at Gastonbury Conn. Aug 5. 1824. He married Sarah Smith Oct 18. 1766. She born May 2. 1751, died Oct 12. 1830. His family Bible with the family records is now in possession of Mrs Dr A. J. Abbel (Eliza Wells) daughter of George Wells (1813-1890) of Pompey Hill N.Y. Uncle Asa Hamilton 'Wells' wife died in 1827 and soon after he went to Gastonbury to manage part of the Sellow farm, and to assist his grandmother Sellow, and married his second wife, Harriet Benton, there Jan 3. 1830, and remained there to settle up the Sellow estate after his grandmother died. I do not find that John Sellow is credited with service in the war of the Revolution in Conn. tho he may have had such service, as the records of soldiers in Connecticut who served in the Revolution are far from complete. There was a John Sellow (spelled Sallow) in Mass. a Lieut in Capt Joseph Smith's Company. Entered service July 1. 1775, discharged Dec 31. 1775. Service six months in defense of sea coast. This may have been some other John Sellow.

## Children

- 1 John<sup>lf</sup> Sellow b Oct 22. 1771, died Feb 12. 1772
- 2 George<sup>lf</sup> " b July 27. 1773, died July 14. 1821
- 3 Lucy<sup>lf</sup> " b July 14. 1775, d Nov 9. 1857, m Elijah Wells.
- 4 Asa<sup>lf</sup> " b June 4. 1776, d May 11. 1826
- 5 John 2nd<sup>lf</sup> " b June 9. 1780, died Feb 18. 1807
- 6 Sally (twin)<sup>lf</sup> b Nov 10. 1784, m Leonard Wells
- 7 Nancy (twin)<sup>lf</sup> b Nov 10. 1784, married ----- Hubbard
- 8 Asahel<sup>lf</sup> " Aug 31. 1787, d July 16. 1818
- 9 Russell<sup>lf</sup> b March 18. 1790
- 10 Milly<sup>lf</sup> b March 14. 1793, died Apr 4. 1850 unmarried

The Cousins, Calvin, Leonard and John Wells of Hartford who used to visit Pompey and Manlius were related on the Sellow and not on the Wells side. They dealt extensively in leaf tobacco in Hartford





It is stated in the History of Green County N.Y. that the Adams family were of the Presidential line, but investigation proves that such was not the case.

George Adams, the glover, the first ancestor of this family in America, and his wife Frances, settled in Watertown Mass. in 1645. It is not known when they came from England to the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Nov 4. 1664 he sold to John Chenery his home and land in Watertown and moved to Cambridge Farms, now Lexington Mass. He was killed by a falling rock at Watertown Oct 10. 1696. The inventory of his estate was 61-13-3. His son Daniel sole executor. The births of only two of his children are recorded, though he had at least six

## Children

- 2  
1 John b. Apr 6. 1645, died young
- 2  
2 George b. 1647, m. Martha Fisk June 10. 1684
- 2  
3 Daniel b. 1652 settled in Simsbury Conn.
- 2  
4 John and b. Mar 6. 1657, settled in Simsbury, m. Abigail Phinney Dec 6. 1677, lived in Enfield in 1697 next in Colchester Conn. died Nov 22. 1732
- 2  
5 Samuel b. ----- Lived in Simsbury Conn. married Elizabeth daughter of Luke Hill
- 2  
6 Mary bap Nov 21. 1686 in Watertown Mass.

2 /  
Sergt. Daniel, son of George and Frances, born at Watertown Mass. in 1652, died at Simsbury Conn. Nov 7. 1713, married Sept 20. 1677 Mary Phelps. She born Oct 26. 1658 died "middle March" 1715 at Simsbury Conn.

## Children

- 3  
1 Daniel b. 1678, died Jan 11. 1713 at Simsbury
- 3  
2 Sarah b. ----- m. Thomas Stevens Feb 22. 1704
- 3  
3 Samuel b. ----- m. Elizabeth Read July 2. 1713, d. Apr 1772





- 3  
4 Joseph b. 1685 d. March 26.1741, m. Apr 30.1719 Mary  
Case, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Holecomb)  
Case, a first settler of Simsbury
- 3  
5 Thomas b. 1688 d. Feb 24.1734, m. Martha Buttolph
- 3  
6 Benjamin b. 1695, d. Oct 3.1770, m. Rachel Case March 25  
1712. He m. 2nd Lewis Griswold May 27.1734
- 3  
7 Thankful b. March 4.1697, d. Feb 21.1698
- 3  
8 Mercy b. Jan 16.1698, ~~1698~~ m. Daniel Porter 1712
- 3  
9 Mary twin to Mercy d. March 29.1700
- 3  
10 Ephraim bap May 25.1701, m. Ruth Beaman May 5.1725
- 3  
11 Thankful bap Apr 10----- m. Robert Westland May 17.1721

3 2 1  
Joseph Adams (Sergt Daniel, George) b. at Simsbury 1685 died  
there March 26.1741, m. Mary Case, daughter of William and  
Elizabeth (Holecomb) Case of Terry's Plains, Simsbury Conn. Apr  
30.1719. She b. Aug 23.1696, d. Sept 1731. She was a sister  
to Rachel Case, wife of his brother Benjamin.

#### Children

- 4  
1 Joseph b. Sept 16.1722, d. 1775 married Penelope Roberts
- 4  
2 Matthew b. Aug 21.1724, d. March 9.1764

4 3 2 1  
Joseph Adams (Joseph, Sergt Daniel, George) b. Sept 16.1722, m.  
Sept 1742 Penelope Roberts. She b. Feb 27.1721, d. March 19.  
1756, daughter of Richard and Deborah (Hosor) Roberts and  
grand daughter of John and Deborah (Thrall) Monos. They lived  
at Simsbury. He married 2nd Apr 24.1766 Koziah Monos

#### Children





- 1 Penelope b. March 3.1743
- 2 Deborah b. Sept 12.1744
- 3 Joseph b. Nov 6.1746 died in the town of Durham 1832
- 4 Richard b. Oct 16.1748
- 5 Dorcas b. Jan 2.1751/2
- 6 Dioda b. Apr 21.1755
- 7 Violet b. May 20.1756

5                      4                      3                      2                      1

Joseph Adams (Joseph, Joseph, Sergt Daniel, George) born in Sinsbury Conn. Nov 6.1746, died in the town of Durham Greene Co. N.Y. in 1832, married Martha Terry, daughter of John and Martha (Gridley) Terry of Sinsbury Conn. She died in Sinsbury July 19.1815. He married 2nd Charity Hill and 3rd Eunice Pratt in Greene Co Dec 27.1803. He owned a farm near Catskill and was a merchant there till the year 1800 when he sold out and bought a farm in the north part of the town of Durham, Green Co. It is not known whether he was a soldier in the Revolution

6                      Children

- 1 Patty martha b. June 13.1764 died at age of 20
- 2 Polly Mary b. June 1.1770 bap June 19.1771 died Nov 1

11.1747, m. Oct 12.1788 to Ira Eno (9 children)

- 3 Alma b. 1774 or 1775, d. 1864 at Maysville Ohio, m.

Daniel Reed. They had 10 children

- 4 Lucinda b. June 20.1776, m. May 2.1799 Grosvenor Case

- 5 Joseph b. Nov 10.1781, m. Mary Clarke Leonis. They

Lived in Green County N.Y.

Children by second wife Charity





6  
6 John b about 1785. He was a prominent lawyer in Greene Co. a member of Congress &c. Was married.

6  
7 Zophar b 1787 at Catskill N.Y. d 1864 in Illinois, married Laura Pratt of Binghamton N.Y.

6  
8 Platt b Dec 20. 1792, married Clarissa Dudley. He was a merchant of Catskill, Col of Militia, and in public life for 40 years. He was living in 1864.

6  
9 Betsey b 1793 at Catskill, d 1873 in Illinois, m Resolved Howland Potter, a merchant of southern Albany Co N.Y.

They went to Ill. at an early day. Married in 1812.

6  
10 Reuben b ----- Was living in 1825, mentioned in will

6  
11 Sally b ----- Was living in 1825 " " "

6  
Children by third wife, Eunice Pratt.

12 Ira b Feb 23. 1805, died before 1825

6  
13 Vactor b Aug 27. 1807, was living in 1825

6  
14 Julia Ann b June 15. 1814. Was living in 1825

6  
15 Hulda Ann b Sept 11. 1818. Was living in 1825

---

Peter Palmer married Margaret Potter, a sister of Resolved Howland Potter, and both families moved to Illinois. The Potters had a son, Brig Gen Joseph Adams Potter who served for 30 years, till 1872. The Palmers had several sons who became wealthy, the best known of which was Potter Palmer of Chicago, who got his first business experience in the store of Platt Adams at Catskill N.Y.

The will of Joseph Adams was dated at Durham, Greene Co N.Y. March 21. 1825, and was as follows

In the name of God, amen. I Joseph Adams of Durham in the





in the County of Green and State of New York, being of sound mind and memory do make and ordain this my last will and testament, revoking all others.

First, I appoint Platt Adams, my son, of said Durham, and Zadock Pratt Jr of Lexington in said County as my executors of this my last will and testament.

Secondly, I order my executors to pay all my just debts and legacies out of my personal estate (except my household furniture) which I shall owe, and if not sufficient to pay them the residue to be paid out of my real estate.

Thirdly, I give and bequeath to my present wife, Eunice Adams, one third of my property (personal) after my debts and legacies are paid, and also one third of all of my real estate for her use during the time she remains my widow.

Fourthly, I give and bequeath to my son Vactor Adams and Julia Ann and Huldah Ann Adams, my daughters, these three children which I had by my last wife Eunice the remainder of my personal estate to be equally divided between them after my debts and legacies are paid by my executors.

Fifthly, I also give and devise to my said son Vactor and Julia Ann and Huldah Ann all my real estate to be equally divided between them, my wife Eunice's dower is first to be set off to her, one third of my real property, and the remaining two thirds of my real property to be equally divided between my son Vactor and Julia Ann and Huldah Ann at the death of my wife Eunice or if she forfeits her dower by marriage the said third part of my real estate given for her use shall be equally divided between my said children Vactor, Julia Ann and Huldah Ann Adams.

Sixthly, I give and bequeath to all my children to wit, Patty, Polly, Alma, Lucinda and Joseph Adams, which I had by my first wife Martha Adams, one dollar each provided they demand the same within one year after my decease. The reason I do not give them more is because I have heretofore given them as much of my property as I think they ought to have out of my estate.

Seventhly, I give and bequeath to all my children which I had by my wife Charity Adams, which was my second wife, to wit, John, Zophar, Platt, Botsey, Rouben and Sally one dollar each except Sally which I give three hundred and fifty dollars. The other children above named besides Sally which I had by my wife Charity, I have given them heretofore as much of my property as I think they ought to have out of my estate.

Eighthly, I order my executors to pay my legacies within one year after my decease. In witness where of I have hereunto set my hand and seal & c







<sup>4</sup>  
<sup>5</sup>  
 Zophar Adams, son of Joseph and Charity (Hill) Adams (Joseph, Joseph, Daniel, George) born probably at Catskill, Green Co N.Y. in 1787, died about 1864 at Roscoe, Winnebago Co Illinois. He married Jan 8. 1804 Laura Pratt, daughter of Elias and Patience (Clark) Pratt of Binghamton N.Y. and formerly of Saybrook Conn. She born March 25. 1787 at Hartford Conn, died in the spring of 1856 at Roscoe Ill. We do not know just when they settled in Pompey, Onondaga Co N.Y.. The records of Deeds show his first purchase of land to have been Jan 21. 1820, of 120 acres. He sold this later and bought other land. Apr 2. 1846 he sold his farm of 97 acres to his son in law, Russell Wells, for \$ 4.000 and probably settled in Illinois soon after.

<sup>7</sup> Children

- 1 Zophar H. Jr b March 31. 1805, married Lucy ----
- 2 Horatio H. <sup>7</sup> b May 15. 1806
- 3 Patience Sophronia <sup>7</sup> July 15. 1808, married Russell Wells
- 4 Electus <sup>7</sup> b June 17. 1810, soldier in Mexican war, lost
- 5 Melville M. <sup>7</sup> b Sept 26. 1812, d Mar 21. 1844 unmarried
- 6 Harriet Augusta <sup>7</sup> Nov 11. 1815, m Welcome Smith She d ----
- 7 Platt <sup>7</sup> b Jan 23. 1818 d about 1880 at Detroit Mich.

He m ---- No Ch. Soldier in Mexican war

- 8 Laura Amelia <sup>7</sup> b Dec 25. 1821, d --- 1896 at Rockford Ill.

m Frank Benjamin. They adopted the children of Harriet Augusta. Fred and Alice.

- 9 Reuben Howland <sup>7</sup> b Apr 22. 1824 in Pompey, m Caroline Smith

- 10 Francis Lucian <sup>7</sup> b March 26. 1826, d 1907, m Mary Tollman

- 11 Elbert A. <sup>7</sup> b Apr 26. 1828 died about 1884 unmarried

- 12 Flora Ellen <sup>7</sup> b Aug 15. 1832, d Aug 4. 1909 at Rockford Ill.

She married Ebenezer Brown





Records of the children of Zophar and Laura(Pratt)Adams

7

Zophar M. b March 31.1805,d --- We suppose he lived near Buffalo N.Y. But little is known of him now. He owned a brickyard in Syracuse when it was a village. The records of deeds show that he bought one and three fourths of an acre of land in Syracuse July 9.1834 for \$445 and sold it Dec 31.1841 for \$2530. The deed was signed by Zophar and Lucy Adams

### Children

Harmon<sup>8</sup>  
Henry<sup>8</sup>  
Emily<sup>8</sup>  
Carrie<sup>8</sup>  
David<sup>8</sup>

7

2 Horatio H. b May 15.1806,d ---- m ---- They lived in the west.Children not known except that there was a daughter Helen who married Harvey Hubbard and lived at Lacrosse Wis.He b.in Pompey,and d about 1902

7

3 Patience Sophronia b July 15.1808,d Nov 12.1883 at Manlius N.Y. married Russell Wells. They were farmers in the town of Pompey till they retired from the farm. They had eight children. See the Wells records

7

4 Electus b June 7.1810. He was a soldier in the Mexican war and never returned

7

5 Melville M. b Sept 26.1812,died March 22.1844 unmarried

7

6 Harriet Augusta b Nov 11.1815,died. --- m Welcome Smith of Syracuse N.Y. After her death her sister Laura Amelia and her husband adopted her children,Alice and Fred

### Children

Alice Smith b<sup>8</sup> d in Ill.in 1878 and was buried at Roscoe Winnebago Co Ill

7

Fred Smith b He was in the U.S.Navy and was drowned at sea

7

7 Platt b Jan 23.1818,died about 1880 at Detroit Michigan He was a soldier in the Mexican war. He was married twice but had no children





7

8 Laura Amelia Adams b Dec 25. 1831, died in 1906 at Rockford  
 She married Frank Benjamin. He b d  
 They had no children but adopted Alice and Fred Smith,  
 children of her sister, Harriet Augusta (Adams) Smith

7

9 Reuben Howland Adams b Apr 22. 1824 in Pompey N.Y. d Dec 22  
 1895 at Fulton Ill. He m Caroline Smith of Kittanning Pa.  
 She b 1834 d May 19. 1875. He served in the civil war.

## Children

Clara Augusta b Live in Chicago 1884 unmarried  
 Flora May b m Frank Wright. Lives at Oakesh Wis.  
 Josephine b  
 Bertha Grace b m George A. Ward, live at Dixon Ill.  
 William Pratt b m Mary E. Dillon. Live at Clinton Ia.  
 Mattie Belle b died young  
 Mary Boyer b m Chas W. Ingrioli, and W.A. Archer  
 Ruby Howland b m Joseph Root. Live in Omaha Neb.

7

10 Francis Lucien Adams b March 26. 1828, d Feb 21. 1907 m Mary  
 E. Tolman of Pompey N.Y. She b Oct 11. 1823 d Feb 13. 1907  
 at Buffalo. They had returned from Ill. lived in Buffalo.

## Children

Cecilia Adams b m Cyrus Alexander Cornman  
 Belle Adams b m Israel Hamilton Barber

7

11 Elbert Adams b Apr 26. 1823, died about 1884. An invalid.

7

12 Flora Ellen Adams b Aug 15. 1832, d Aug 4. 1909, m Ebenezer F.  
 Brown. He b Dec 31. 1835, d Dec 1. 1912. Lived at Rockford  
 Ill.

8

## Children

Laura Amelia Brown b 1851, m Oscar Fabrique. He d 1873

8

Flora E. Brown b Apr 4. 1854, d Apr 26. 1909 at Rockford Ill.  
 married Charles Hollenbeck. He died in 1885.

*g she d Dec 16. 1934 at Elgin Ill*

Charles Brown b 1856 died in 1896

8

Alice Brown b 1867, married Hamilton Wells Gearey in 1908.  
 They have an adopted daughter and live in Fargo  
 N.D. where he is President of the Merchants Nati-  
 onal Bank. See the Wells records.





Mother Wells kept an autograph book when she was a girl and Delia Hibbard had it during her life.

It contained the autographs of several from Pompey, including some of her brothers, and it seems she visited Greene County in 1827, the year before she was married. I copied the following

Robert I. Page, Oak Hill N.Y. Sept 18. 1827

Jannette Adams " " "

C.I. Adams " " " Sept 21. 1827

Calvin A. Adams, Durham N.Y. Sept 20. 1827

W. Adams Catskill N.Y.

It is said that she had a suitor while there, but was already engaged to Russell Wells.

She must have visited the Pratts at Binghamton in 1831.

Hal E. Pratt, Binghamton N.Y. Aug 29. 1831

Her grand father, Elias Pratt, wrote in the book as follows

"But think not to find this immutable bliss,  
Will scatter the rose without thorns where you stray,  
Ah ! no, in a world so unstable as this,  
Both sunshine and shadow might fall on your way"

"But my dear grand child, in the midst of thy happiness  
When smiling eyes and warm hearts greet thee  
With a welcome of fond affection,

Remember me."

"May God in his mercy watch over and bless you,  
In health and in sickness through cloud and through shine,  
May he kindly lighten the cares that oppress you,  
From the morning of life till eve's shadows decline."

"These lines are selected by your aged grand father, who  
wishes you all the happiness this world can give, and  
complete happiness in the world to come."

(signed)

E. Pratt

Binghamton N.Y. Sept 5. 1831

(Elias Pratt died Dec 12. 1834. He served 3 years in the Revolution, was pensioned in 1818. This from the Pension Dept)





There was also the following from her mother, Laura (Pratt) Adams, and as it bears the date of May 2, 1847 it would seem certain that the Adams family did not go to Illinois till 1847.

"My dear and beloved daughter Sophronia.

The time has come that we must part, and perhaps for ever, but let the thought console us, that although we may not meet again on earth (which may not be impossible), there is a bright and happy world which God has prepared for those that love him and keep his commandments.

That it may be the happy lot of us and ours to meet in that blissful world, never to part, is the sincere prayer of your affectionate mother

Laura Adams "

Still knit in friendships sacred tie,  
Days, months, and years shall vainly roll,  
They but demand the passing sigh,  
But dare not disunite the soul.

Your mother

Pompey May 2, 1847

As to whether Joseph Adams was a soldier in the Revolution, I have been unable to identify such service, if he had any.

There is much that is not understandable in his life, at this time. He married Martha Terry in Simsbury Conn. and it will be noticed that she lived till 1815, which was after the death of his second wife, Charity, and also after his third marriage to Eunice, Pratt, in Greene County. No record of a divorce from Martha has been found, nor has a record of marriage to her or to Charity been found.

In his will he names each wife, calling them such, and names the living children of each in the order of their births.

I have corresponded with two of the descendants of the first wife, Martha. Both had made a thorough research, and it was from them that I got the ancestry back to George Adams, the glover, of Watertown Mass.





The following Pratt records are taken from the "Pratt Family" "Lieut William Pratt of Hartford and Saybrook". Published by F.W.Chapman in 1864.

Those who are interested in the early records of this family should see the book, as in it the author gives the ancestry of Lieut William Pratt back to 1534 connectedly, and back to about the year 1250 in a general way.

Lieut William Pratt was the son of the Rev William Pratt and his wife Elizabeth. The Rev William Pratt was born in Oct 1562 and died in 1629, aged 67. He was Rector of the church at Stevenage, in the County of Hertford, England, for 30 years. Lieut William Pratt was born about 1610 and died about 1678. He is supposed to have come to America with the Rev Thomas Hooker's party in 1633, living in New Town (Cambridge Mass) till 1636 when he came to Hartford Conn. He married Elizabeth Clark, daughter of John Clark of Saybrook, Hartford and Milford and who came from Great London, Hertfordshire, Eng. and died in 1673. She was born in 1623 and married William Pratt in June 1636. The exact dates of their deaths is not known. As Lieut William Pratt was the first ancestor in America we begin numbering the generations with him, calling him of the first generation.

### Children

- 1 Elizabeth    b Feb 1.1641 at Hartford. She m May 11.1660  
Lieut William Backus of Norwich Conn.  
They had six children
- 2 John        b Feb 20.1644 at Hartford, married Sarah Jones
- 3 Joseph     b Aug 1.1648 at Saybrook, m Elizabeth Huntington
- 4 Sarah      b Apr 1.1651, m David Knight. Had eight children
- 5 William    b May 15.1653 at Saybrook, m Harriet Kirtland  
Feb 20.1678. Five children. He was a Captain
- 6 Samuel     b Oct 6.1655
- 7 Lydia      b Jan 1.1659 at Saybrook
- 8 Nathaniel   b ----- He is recognised in his fathers will  
by a deed of gift (Saybrook records)





Ensign John Pratt, son of Lieut William Pratt the settler, born Feb 20.1644 at Hartford Conn. is supposed to have died in 1726. He married Sarah Jones, June 8.1669. She daughter of Thomas Jones of Guilford Conn. He was a large land owner at Saybrook and Hebron Conn. and often appears on the records as Ensign John Pratt, but still more commonly by the name of Sergeant John Pratt (Smith) to distinguish him from another John Pratt, who at the time was called Sergeant John Pratt (Taylor) John Pratt represented his town several times in the General Assembly

## Children

- 1 John            b Sept 5.1671
- 2 Elizabeth    b Apr 3.1673
- 3 Thomas       b Oct 28.1675
- 4 Isaac        b Jan 16.1677, married Mary Taylor
- 5 Sarah         b June 5.1680
- 6 Lydia         b Feb 18.1682
- 7 Nehitable    b Sept 6.1685
- 8 Mary          b            1688

---

Isaac Pratt (John, William) of Saybrook Conn. born Jan 16.1677 died in 1733, married Mary Taylor about 1704

## Children, born at Saybrook

- 1 Isaac         b July 21.1705
- 2 Timothy      b Jan 20.1713
- 3 Mary         b Sept 8.1714
- 4 Murphy      b May 16.1716, married Lydia Tulley
- 5 Elizabeth    b -----
- 6 James        b            1725





<sup>4</sup> Humphrey Pratt (Isaac, John, William) born May 16. 1716 at Saybrook, died Aug 26. 1787, married Lydia Tulley Nov 30. 1746. She born July 24. 1711, died July 31. 1791. They lived in old Saybrook Conn.

## Children

- 1 Humphrey b Dec 5. 1748
- 2 William b Nov 22. 1750
- 3 Elias b Apr 21. 1754, married Patience Clarke
- 4 Lydia b July 25. 1752, d Aug 19. 1812, unmarried
- 5 Andrew b Nov 8. 1756

<sup>5</sup> Elias Pratt (Humphrey, Isaac, John, William) born April 21. 1754 died Dec 18. 1834 at Binghamton N.Y. where they probably had lived for many years. He married Patience Clarke of Hartford Conn. She born 1752, died after 1820 and before 1834. He was known to have had a pension, and by applying to the U.S. Pension Bureau we find the military and family records that were contained in his application for a pension in 1818 for his services in the Revolution. His application was granted.

He enlisted Jan 12. 1777 for three years in the Continental army, and was Quartermasters Sergeant in the 1st Company of the 1st Connecticut regiment, Capt Christopher Ely, Col Josiah Starr, and Col Jedediah Huntington. Residence at date of enlistment not stated. He engaged in the battle of Monmouth N.J. He applied for a pension Apr 16. 1818 while living in the town of Pompey N.Y. Age at date of application 64 years. He died Dec 18. 1834. In 1820 his wife, Patience, was 61 years of age. He left no widow. Children living in 1818, Zenas, Laura Adams, Maverick and Nathaniel Pratt.

## Children

- 1 Artomas b May 5. 1781, married in 1808 ----- He died in the state of Kentucky in 1811, leaving a widow and three children
- 2 Zenas b Dec 22. 1783, died Oct 16. 1861, married Sally Sabin July 3. 1810. He was a cabinet maker and lived in Binghamton N.Y.

## Children





Robert M. b March 21.1811. Portrait painter  
 Hallen E. b Aug 20.1812  
 George b Jan 14.1815  
 Francis H. b May 5.1817, soldier in civil war. He  
 was killed at South Mountain  
 Frederick W. May 30.1819  
 James A. b July 30.1821  
 William H. b March 17.1825

3 Laura Pratt b March 23.1787, d spring of 1856 in Illinois.  
 Married Zophar Adams. See Adams records for children.

4 Mavorick Pratt b May 9.1784, was living in Henry Co Ill. in  
 1864, m Samantha Hyde, daughter of Gen Hyde of Berkshire  
 Co Mass. She d Apr 11.1863 at Kewanee Illinois.

7

## Children

Julius A. b July 26.1824, Lieut in 124th Ill. Reg't.  
 Killed at Vicksburg June 25.1863

7

Juliet A. twin to Julius

Mary E. b Jan 24.1824, died Oct 27.1837

7

Norman R. b Dec 15.1825, Lieut in 124th Illinois.

Caroline S. Dec 15.1826

7

Harriet A. b March 29.1830

James B. b Apr 27.1832

7

Sarah S. b March 31.1834

6

Laura A. b Oct 1841

5 Harriet Augusta Pratt b ----- probably died young

6 Nathaniel Proctor Pratt b Sept 6.1802, living in 1864 married  
 Hannah Murch, Oct 5.1838. He was a cabinet maker  
 and undertaker at Trumansburg, Tompkins Co. N.Y.

7

## Children

Horace Clark b Nov 2.1834, died Jan 12.1838

7

Charles Addison b May 6.1832 died Apr 4.1848

7

Horace Bradley b Sept 1.1834

7

James Remond b Nov 23.1837

7

Melvin Augustus b Feb 11.1846





John Balch heads the family which is now scattered across the United States. While it has been possible to learn with much accuracy his own history since he landed in this country in September 1623, all efforts to trace him and his ancestry prior to his coming to America have met with but slight success; but it is known that he came from Somerset County and early family tradition says from Horton.

He came with a Colony in charge of Capt Robert Georges, son of Sir Fernando, who had a grant of a large tract of land which he wished to colonize. They landed at Wessagussett, now known as Weymouth, Mass. It is learned from British Archives that Capt Georges was commissioned Governor of New England. Concerning this place prior to his landing some interesting facts deserve attention.

Palfrey tells us in his history that early in the year 1621 Mr Weston of London sent over two vessels, the Charity and the Swan, with some fifty men to ~~settlement~~ settle a plantation for him in the Massachusetts Bay. Concerning them, Bradford of the Plymouth Colony, received warning from Cushing and Price, in England, that they were lame in condition and unfit for an honest man's company. These men landed at Wessagussett, and stole vegetables from the gardens of the Plymouth Colony. During the second winter their condition became desperate, and under the leadership of their chief man, Sanders, they took food by force from the Indians.

The Plymouth Colony reconstituted in the strongest terms against this robbery, and because of it the Indians formed a plot to exterminate not only the Weston company, but the Pilgrims as well. This probably would have succeeded if the Plymouth Colony had not been warned by a friendly Indian. In the spring of 1623 the settlement was abandoned by the Weston people.

Next came the Georges Company, of which John Balch was a member, to the deserted settlement, in the fall of 1623. This was the first direct from England to form a nucleus for a permanent settlement in New England, the Plymouth Colony and the Weston company were indeed earlier, but the former came by way of Holland and the latter dispersed.

Independence of religious thought and a disposition to break away from the Church of England characterized the Georges company. An Episcopal clergyman named Morrell, who came with them, finding no opportunity to exercise his ecclesiastical authority, returned to England.







The vessel that brought them over shortly afterwards sailed with passengers for the Virginia Colony, while Capt Georges made an exploration to the north and soon returned to England. After he left the settlers were joined by some disaffected and expelled members of the Plymouth Colony, among whom was Rev John Tyford and Roger Conant.

About this time English capitalists formed the Dorchester Company, with the settlers as its agents and employees. The object was to carry on a fishery, and in 1624 the Colony removed to Cape Ann for this purpose. They had about 200 servants. An attempt had been made the year before to establish a plantation at Cape Ann with Thomas Gardner as overseer, with small success.

Roger Conant, who was described as a "religious sober and prudent gentleman" was appointed Governor of the Dorchester Company, and Tyford was the minister of the place. Cattle were received from England in 1625.

The fishing business not succeeding, most of the servants were returned to England and the Colonists determined to change their vocation from fishing to agriculture. The location of Cape Ann was ill adapted to the new occupation, and in September 1626 they moved with their families, stores and cattle to the Saugameoreship of Naumkeag, a densely wooded peninsula where the Boston and Maine Railroad now crosses onto the bridge over the harbor from Salem to Beverly. These first settlers were,

Roger Conant  
Peter Palfry  
William Allen  
Richard Norman Sr  
John Woodbury  
Rev John Tyford  
Thomas Gray

Walter Knight  
John Balch  
Thomas Gardner  
Richard Norman Jr  
John Tilly  
Capt Wm Trask  
and others

Some were married and had children, and there were in all between twenty five and thirty souls.

The rock on which this noble band of pioneers stepped ashore at Naumkeag can be seen from the cars as they cross Beverly harbor. It is known as Forefather's Rock. Here was a tribe of Indians, much reduced in numbers by pestilence and wars, who gladly received the settlers for the protection they might afford.





The following year Tyford, who seems to have been of a roving disposition, planned to remove the colony to Virginia, but the Rev John White, a Puritan, known as the Patriarch of Dorchester learning of the contemplated move, wrote a letter from England on behalf of the Dorchester merchants who had organized the company, which deterred most of the settlers from leaving. In it he exhorted Conant not to desert the business and faithfully promised him if he with John Woodbury, John Balch and Peter Palfry, whom he knew to be honest and prudent men, would stay at Naumkeag he would provide a patent for them. White was unable to keep his promise. It was evidently on these four men that the projectors of the colony relied for the energy and intelligence requisite for the success of their enterprise. The four came to be known as "The Old Planters". None of them or their descendants are known to have been among the persecutors of the Baptists, the Quakers or the Witches but on the contrary, a descendant of Woodbury kept a horse saddled and a "lanthorn" lighted to aid any accused of witchcraft to escape, and a grand son of John Balch dared to sign a remonstrance against their persecution.

Carpenters among the settlers at Naumkeag built a frame house for Conant and assisted others in constructing snug huts so they were enabled to pass the winter in comfort. For two years they thus prospered, attended to their cattle, and raised Maize and hunted in common with their Indian friends. Their various doings are set forth at length in the papers by George D. Philpen in the historical collection of the Essex Institute, Vol 1.

In the meantime the Dorchester Company in England sold their interest in the Colony to the Massachusetts Bay Company. The description of the Bay Colony's grant shows how meager the geographical knowledge of America was at the time, for its bounds are given as three miles north of the Merrimac, three miles south of the Charles, and running west from the Atlantic to the South Seas.

John Endicott was sent over as Governor of this new company. On September 6, 1628 he landed at Naumkeag with his Puritanical band, and then it was that Conant's party learned of the change in their governors.

Although the original settlers desired accessions to their colonies they were not pleased with the followers of Endicott, for they quickly perceived in them that stern religious intolerance which was so soon to develop into the cruel persecutions that have stained the pages of New England history.







The winter's stores were inadequate for the double colony and the sad scenes of the Pilgrim's first winter at Plymouth were repeated at Naumkeag, and many died before spring. Early the following summer many more settlers arrived, and the colony was firmly established.

The differences between the adventurers (as the first settlers were called) and the puritanical followers of Endicott were amicably adjusted, and to commemorate the event the town was incorporated in July 1629, and named Salem, the Hebrew word for peaceful. John Balch and about eighteen others being members of the church were made freemen May 18, 1631, that is, given the right to vote and hold office. This is the first date on which freemen were made in America.

Early in the year 1635 the Massachusetts Bay Company gave to the several towns within its grant the right to give grants of land. The town of Salem in order to exercise this right at once appointed five overseers and layers out of land for its Precinct, and one of these was John Balch. His name frequently appears in this capacity upon the records.

On November 25, 1635, the town granted a thousand acres in what was known as the Bass River District, to be divided between Roger Conant, John Woodbury, John Balch, Captain Trask and Peter Palfry. They divided it to suit themselves. This land was located between the head of Bass River and Wenham Pond. It afterwards became known as "The Old Planters' grant" and was included in the town of Beverly, incorporated in 1668.

John Balch built a two story frame house in 1638 upon his land, in which he spent the remainder of his life. In it his son Benjamin (3) and Benjamin's grand son, Benjamin (4) lived and reared their families. From this last Benjamin it passed to his daughter, Deborah (5) Balch Dodge, in which family and name the house has continued to the present time. The Balch house, although subjected to some changes, is still standing in a good state of preservation. Roger Conant and John Woodbury also built houses nearby, but Conant's is now entirely obliterated, and only the





cellar hole remains to mark the site of the one reared by Woodbury.

The first thirteen executive rulers of Salem were chosen January 26.1636/7, and June following the number was twelve selectmen. The name of John Balch appears in both lists. Both his name and that of his wife, Margery, are in the lists of the first members of the first church of Salem. The organization of this church was completed August 6.1639 and was the first Congregational church completely formed and organized in America. The Plymouth church was first but it was formed and organized in Leyden, Holland, during the temporary sojourn of the Pilgrims there on their way to this country. So large a part of it was transferred that it was considered the church to the new Colony in America.

John Balch

was twice married, first to Margery Lovell Sept 12.1625. It is not improbable that this may have been the first marriage in the Naumkeag settlement. To them were born three sons -

2	Benjamin	Balch	born winter 1628/9 d after Jan 31.1714
2	John	"	born about 1630 d June 16.1662
2	Freeborn	"	born about 1631 d about 1658

His second wife, Agnes or Annis Patch, had no children. John died on his estate on Bass River in May 1648. His will was duly made and filed among the Essex County records, where it now is. The inventory of John Balch's estate rendered by Benjamin Balch Feb 3.1648/9 amounted to 220 lbs 13 s 4 d. There is a copy of the will in the Balch Genealogy.

#### THE WILL OF JOHN BALCH

Salem May 15.1648

I, John Balch, sick in bodie but in perfect memorie, doe make my last will and testament in manner and forme following. My debts paid and funeral expenses discharged, those goods God has gyven me it is my will to be disposed of as follow-





Item, I gyve unto Annis Balch, my loving wife, the room newlie built with twelve Akers of land wch 4 Akers to be tilt and 4 Akers of Medowe with some pt of the barne to lay her fruits and halfe of the great fruit trees and during the life of said Annis.

Item, I gyve unto said wife my best bed with all convenient furniture thereunto belonging, and one-fourth pt of all my household goods, except the rest of my bedding, and also two coves by name Reddie and Cherie and one yearling heaffer. Further, my will is that so long as my wife shall live my said sonnes shall sowe or plant 2 Akers of Aforesaid 4 Akers for my said wife for the term of 7 years, and one sonne Benjamin shall doe all himself.

Item, my will is that all my corne growing upon the ground shall be equallie Divided into 4 equall pts among my wife and children.

Item, I gyve unto John Balch, my second sonne, one fourth of my farme and one yoke of oxen, one third of my younge cattel and mare and colt, one-fourth of my household goods and half of the young apple trees undispost of, and one cow.

Item, I gyve to ffreborn Balch, my youngest sonne, one fourth pt of my ffarme, one yoke of oxen and one cow I bred up for him, one third of the younge cattel, and one third of the mare and one fourth of my household goods and half the young apple trees betwixt him and his brother John equelle to be divided, and further my last will and testament is that my living friends John Proctor and William Woodberrie shall be overseers of the same, witness hereof I have hereunto put my hand the day and year above written (signed)

John Balch

#### Witnesses

Peter Palfrey

Nicholas Patch

Jefferie Massey

Benjamin, eldest son of John and Margory Balch was born in the Sangernorship of Nantkeag during the severe and trying winter of 1638/9 which followed the arrival of Endicott. The evidence which conclusively fixes his birth as this winter was collected by David H. Balch and published in the Salem Gazette on May 10. 1870, and in Balch leaflets No 1 & 2.





Twenty-two years after the death of Benjamin(4) the third son of Benjamin(3) the tradition of the family was committed to writing that Benjamin was the first born male child in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Since it was in September 1628 that the Naumkeag settlers learned that they were in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and the name of the place was changed to Salem the following July, the tradition is interpreted as indicating that Benjamin's birth was between those dates. April 10, 1706 he gave his age in a sworn deposition as about 77. This fixes his birth prior to April 1629, and in the winter above mentioned.

The word "male" presented in the tradition seems to hint that a female was born in the Colony before him. Claims conflicting with the tradition that Benjamin was the first-born have been held by the descendants of others, and it will be important to notice them in passing.

After the place took the name of Salem Roger Conant Jr was born, and when ten years old was granted twenty acres of land as the first born child in Salem. He died in 1672. This left John Massey entitled to describe himself as the oldest planter living in Salem who was born there. He was, however, as several depositions show, two years younger than Benjamin(2) Balch, who lived in Beverly.

Benjamin(2) received at his father's death half of the farm and sundry other goods. From his brother John(2) he purchased his share of the old homestead on Bass River, and about 1658 secured possession of his brother Freeborn's share in his father's estate. He lived in the same old home from its building, when he was nine years old, and in it all his children were born. His independence of the rigid Puritanical notions of the times appears in several instances. For entertaining and giving a night's lodging to a stranger on foot he was arrested and fined, and he left the baptism of his children to their own desires.

Previous to his last marriage he gave part of his farm to three of his sons, and after his last wife's death he deeded the home lot for a maintenance in his old age to his grandson, Benjamin(4).





He executed other deeds to his sons, and the last of these which has been found was given January 31.1714/15, and shows he completed his 86th year. He left no will as most of his property was disposed of while living. The date of his death is not known.

Benjamin(2) Balch was married first to Sarah, eldest daughter of Thomas Gardner, the overseer of the first Cape Ann plantation. They had the following children, of which the ten oldest were baptized April 10.1670. Benjamin's wife, Sarah, died Apr 5.1686, and Feb 5.1689 he married Abigail, widow of Matthew Clarke

## Children

<sup>3</sup> 1 Samuel	Balch	b May 1651	died Oct 14.1723
<sup>3</sup> 2 Benjamin	"	b 1653	" Spring of 1698
<sup>3</sup> 3 John	"	b 1654	" Nov 12.1738
<sup>2</sup> 4 Joseph	"	b 1653	" Sep 16.1675
<sup>3</sup> 5 Freeborn	"	b Aug 2.1660	" June 11.1732
<sup>3</sup> 6 Sarah	"	b 1661	" prior to 1717
<sup>3</sup> 7 Abigail	"	b 1663	" Apr 30.1706
<sup>3</sup> 8 Ruth	"	b 1665	
<sup>3</sup> 9 Mary	"	b 1667	" Mar 12.1737
<sup>3</sup> 10 Johnathan	"	b Apr 10.1670	probably died young
<sup>2</sup> 11 David	"	b July 9.1671	d Apr 10.1690 unmarried





3 Samuel Balch, eldest son of Benjamin and Sarah (Gardner) Balch and grand son of John and Margary (Lovell) Balch, was born in the old homestead at the head of Bass River in May 1681 and died October 27. 1723. He married October 27. 1675 Martha, daughter of John and Martha (Gould) Newmarch, of Ipswich Mass. She died July 7. 1720 aged 67 years. They had seven sons and three daughters, all born at Beverly Mass. He married again November 25. 1721, the widow Martha Eaton. She died without issue. When nineteen years of age he was baptized at his own desire, and united with the first church of Beverly, of which he afterwards became Deacon

## Children

- |    |            |                  |                   |
|----|------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1  | Martha     | b Sept 13. 1676  |                   |
| 2  | Samuel     | b May 16. 1678   | died 1754         |
| 3  | Joseph     | b Apr 26. 1680   | " Dec 9. 1732     |
| 4  | Benjamin   | b March 23. 1682 | " June 8. 1748/50 |
| 5  | John       | b " " "          | twin, died 1756   |
| 6  | Phebe      | b April 1. 1684  |                   |
| 7  | Peter      | b May 6. 1685    | died Dec 27. 1755 |
| 8  | Cornellius | b May 1. 1687    | " 1730            |
| 9  | Abigail    | b May 24. 1689   | " Sept 26. 1711   |
| 10 | Thomas     | b April 1. 1692  | " Aug 15. 1692    |

4 3 2 1  
Joseph Balch (Samuel, Benjamin, John) born in Beverly April 26. 1680, he was drowned Dec 9. 1732. He married in Boston Oct 23. 1712, Mary, daughter of Timothy and Deborah Cogood of Andover Mass. She was born February 1679 and died in Boston Oct 22. 1752. Joseph was a sea Captain and resided in Boston.  
(over)





The following account of his death is an extract of a letter printed in the Boston News Letter January 25.1752/3, from David Laiscy, mate of the Frigate "Robert" and is dated St Christopher, December 15.1743, via Rhode Island :

"Sir, - This comes to acquaint you of the dismal misfortune that has happened, viz., The loss of Captain Balch. He was knocked overboard with the gale, seventeen days after we left Boston, about five o'clock in the afternoon, four leagues to the eastwards of the Island of Antigua."

Antigua is one of the Carribboan Islands belonging to Great Britan.

#### Children

- 1 Joseph Balch b Jan 13.1714/5 died unmarried 1738
- 2 Mary " b March 4.1716/17
- 3 Deborah " b Sept .1717
- 4 Ebenezer " b May 14.1722 died April 20.1808
- 5 Timothy " b May 28.1725 " April 11.1776
- 6 Sarah " b Apr 13.1728

Ebenezer Balch, son of Joseph and Mary (Osgood) Balch (Samuel, Joseph, Benjamin, John) was born in Boston Mass. May 14.1723 and died in Hartford Conn. Apr 20.1808. He was married twice. His first wife was Miss Sarah Belden, daughter of Johnathan Belden of Wethersfield Conn. They were married by Rev Jas. Lockwood of Wethersfield. Sarah died April 3.1796 in her

(over)





in the 28th year of her age. He married second Lois Belden a cousin of his first wife, and daughter of Ezra Belden of Wethersfield Conn. They were married November 20. 1756. She died May 27. 1773. Her father, Ezra Belden, was a gold smith and clock maker by trade, and removed from Boston to Hartford, and from there to Wethersfield Conn. April 12. 1756.

## Children

- 1 Sarah<sup>6</sup> b Apr 1. 1751, d 1823, married Elijah Welles
- 2 Mary<sup>6</sup> b Nov 17. 1752, d Sept 16. 1852
- 3 Johnathan<sup>6</sup> b Nov 14. 1754, d Feb 16. 1825

## Children by second wife

- 4 Lois<sup>6</sup> b Feb 27. 1758, d Aug 15. 1769
- 5 Joseph<sup>6</sup> b Feb 16. 1760, d Dec 5. 1855
- 6 Lois (again)<sup>6</sup> b Dec 30. 1761, d 1852
- 7 Lucy<sup>6</sup> b Dec 11. 1763, d July 17. 1804
- 8 Ebenezer<sup>6</sup> b Aug 30. 1766, d Dec 31. 1848
- 9 Timothy<sup>6</sup> b Oct 26. 1768, d Nov 22. 1844
- 10 William<sup>6</sup> b May 17. 1776, d March 31. 1857

The following is a copy of a letter to Sarah (Balch) Welles written by her husband, Elijah Welles, of Wethersfield while in the army at the time Washington evacuated New York. The original of this letter is still in possession of the descendants of George Welles of Wethersfield Conn.

New York September the 11. 1776

My dear friend

I take this opportunity to write ~~you~~ a few lines to you, to let you know I enjoy a good state of health, and have ever since I came from home. I received your letter with pleasure and was glad to hear that you are well. Brother Joseph has been sick and has set out for home some days ago. Brother Colman Wolcott, Seth Welles Elisha Wolcott and Samuel Welles have been sick: but have got better.





Copy of letter from Elijah Welles to his wife continued.

I have nothing strange to write only there has been a steady firing with cannons and bombs for this three days past, which has done but little damage. We expect a battle this day, and have for some days past, but God only knows how soon we shall be called to action, I know that God is able to save all that put their trust in him. I must conclude with sending my love to father, mother, brothers & sisters & acquaintances. I shall be glad to have a line from you as quick as possible - who am

Your well wisher & loving husband  
Elijah Welles

Notice that the spelling of his name was Welles.

The Revolutionary records of Connecticut are very incomplete and Elijah Welles is not credited with service at this time, but does give him credit for service earlier in the war as follows.

During the reorganization of the Continental forces before Boston Dec 1775 to Feb 1776 when the soldiers were coming and going, Washington called for Regiments from New England States to guard the lines at various point until the new army had been well established. Connecticut sent three regiments, under Col James Wadsworth, Col Erastus Wolcott and Col John Douglas. They reached Boston towards the end of January 1776 and remained about six weeks. The rolls of Col Wolcott's regt alone are on file. In 1776 three classes of troops were furnished by the State, namely, Continental, State and Militia.

The State troops or "levies" were generally raised for some special object and by voluntary enlistment in New organizations.

The officers of this regiment were Col Erastus Wolcott and Maj John Chester were commanders. The fourth Company was from Wethersfield, Captain Hezekiah Welles. Elijah Welles was in this Company. One of the Company bore the name of Welles

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